

St. John Emlenton 11:00 11/24/68

*Processional Hymn 19
*Choral Call to Worship
*Confession of Sin
*Assurance of Pardon
Responsive Reading
Hymn 435
Scripture 2 Corinthians 9; 6-15
*Gloria Patri
*Apostles Creed
*Pastoral Prayer
Anthem
Announcements

Joint venture with Salem for Advent *80¢*
bring evergreens and cones.
3:00 till ? Soup, bread, cookies, milk,

ADVENT WREATH DECORATION

COOKIES

Offering, Prayer

*Hymn 259
Sermon
Prayer & Lord's Prayer
*hymn 737
*Benediction
*Threefold Amen

Salem Lamartine 9:30 11/24/ 68

*Processional Hymn 19
*Call to Worship Pg. 235
*Confession of Sin
Assurance of Pardon
Scripture 2 Corinthians 9;6-15
*Gloria Patri
*Apostles Creed
*Pastoral Prayer
Anthem
Announcements

Advent Sunday Dec.1, soup, bread, milk
cookies. Make wreaths. *80¢*
bring greens & cones.
joint venture with Emlenton
3:00 P.M. till ?
Florence Ritts ?

ADVENT WREATH CHURCH DECORATION

YOUTH FELL. 6:30 TO 7:15

Offering, Response, Prayer

Hymn 434
Sermon
Prayer & Lord's Prayer
*Hymn 436
*Benediction
*threefold Amen

THE FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Vandergrift, Pa

Mr. Ralph Link

Mrs. Herman McCutcheon Organist

November 23, 1969 Twenty Fifth Sunday 11:00 A.M.
After Trinity

Prelude
Lightning of the Candles
*PROCESSIONAL HYMN PAGE 434
*INTROIT AND PSALM PAGE 4
*CONFESSION OF SIN PAGE 518
*KYRIE PAGE 5
*ASSURANCE OF PARDON PAGE 5
*PRAISE
*COLLECT PAGE 492
*GLORIA PATRI
SCRIPTURE
CHORAL RESPONSE
*HYMN PAGE 435
*APOSTLES CREED
PASTORAL PRAYER
CHORAL RESPONSE
ANTHEM
ANNOUNCEMENTS
OFFERTORY
*OFFERTORY RESPONSE
*HYMN PAGE 436
SERMON
*RECESSIONAL HYMN PAGE 432
*BENEDICTION
*EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES
POSTLUDE

* CONGREGATION STANDING

The flowers have been placed on the altar this morning by Mr. Carl Doverspike.

Guest Speaker for November 30, 1969 will be Mr. Ralph Link.

Nominations to the offices of Elder and Deacon have been made as follows:

Mr. Carl Doverspike Elder
Mr. Robert King Deacon

Rev. and Mrs. George Winters will move into the parsonage on December 2, 1969. He will preach his first sermon on Sunday December 6 1969

WORK NIGHT

Another night has been selected for preparation of the parsonage for occupancy. This night is Monday Nov. 24, 1969. Workers are needed with equipment for washing woodwork etc. It has been noted that the basement walls have been washed down by Mr. Carl Doverspike, with possibility of painting in future. Work will commence at 6:30 P.M. Nov 24.

DUNCANNON COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Thanksgiving Eve Service

CHURCH OF GOD NOVEMBER 25, 1970

Rev. Chester L. Marzolf, Pastor
Ralph C. Link, Guest Speaker

Prelude

Call To Worship

Prayer

*Hymn 636

Scripture----II Corinthians 9:6-15

Prayer

Hymn 443

Announcements

Offering

Special Music

Sermon----"What Do I Have To Be Thankful For"

*Hymn 635

*Benediction

*Postlude

*Denotes Congregation Standing

The Duncannon Council of Churches welcomes you to this service. We want to express our thanks to the congregation and pastor of the Church of God for the use of their facilities.

The tentative date for the community Christmas tree lighting is Monday December 7th at 7:30 P.M. Please support this as well as the other joint sponsored services of the Duncannon Council of Churches.

Text: 2 Corinthians 9; 10-11

~~Thanksgiving~~ WHAT DO I HAVE TO BE THANKFUL FOR?

As we are all well aware, this coming Thursday will be celebrated, as Thanksgiving Day. We can look at our nation today and perhaps we may wonder, what do we have to be thankful for? Because of the unrest, ^{VIET NAM} because of the division, ^{OF STUDENTS & UNIVERSITIES} and because of the violence that has been shown ^{BETWEEN RACES & RELIGIONS} this is a natural question. We are told that the situation will get worse before it becomes better. So therefore, can we be thankful? Can we celebrate a national holiday under such circumstances? In the ninth chapter of 2nd Corinthians Paul wrote to ^{THE} ~~these~~ ^{IN CORINTH} people and asked them ^{IN JERUSALEM RIDE} to offer their money and themselves for the helping of others. He said, "The one who provides seed for the sower and bread for food will provide you with all the seed you want and make the harvest of your good deeds a larger one, and made richer in every way, you will be able to do all the generous things which, through us, are the cause of thanksgiving to God." In other words Paul is saying that if we put our trust in Him who provides the seed for sowing, He will give us more than enough and that we will be able to do more than we expected and these are reasons for giving thanksgiving to God. So on this Thanksgiving day we can still be thankful. If we look back to the story behind Thanksgiving we can see what motivated this whole idea.

The Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock in December of 1620. These people left their homeland to come to a place where they could worship as they saw fit. A place where they were free from persecution for their beliefs. ^{PURITAN SPIRIT} These people founded the first church in America, and they are today a part of the United Church of Christ. They are the Congregationalists. ~~==~~ In 1621 Governor William Bradford set aside the last Thursday of November as a day of giving thanks to God for all their blessings. This day has been handed down to us and we still continue the observance. We have as much to be thankful for today as the Pilgrims did on that first Thanksgiving. In many, many respects we have more to be thankful for. Out of our thanksgiving we have several things that stand out. First we have worship, then we show thanks, and we show love.

To many people the thought of worship conjures up ideas of attending a formal Church service. This ^{MAY} ~~can~~ or ^{MAY NOT} ~~cannot~~ be part of our observance and

yet it need not be so to be true worship. The ideal thing is for us to attend a service if we can. Most communities have one somewhere. But it is not mandatory that we do. Perhaps this is one fault with our national holidays. Especially those which have a religious connotation. Because of this many people feel that this is merely a chance to overeat, to over-indulge in food and drink, or to have a good time. ^{STORES BEING OPEN} Many people use the day for an extended trip somewhere. Others spend the day hunting. Still others spend the day in front of their television sets engrossed in football games. Each one of these things is good and beneficial. Each one of them affords an opportunity to overcome some of the frustration and anxiety brought on by our modern age. But to spend the entire day in the pursuit of our individual happiness and to never give one thought to what the day stands for, is inexcusable. We should take a few moments at least to worship our God. I know for an example that it may be rather difficult to burst into everyone's enthusiasm when they are seated around the table, piled high with turkey and all the trimmings, and to ask that they all bow their heads in prayer. Perhaps there are those who would be offended by this but we should be willing to run that risk. It is amazing what a simple prayer can do ~~for~~ some people's lives. I was invited to a wedding breakfast once, and almost all of those present were of another faith. Before we sat down to the meal everyone was having a gay time and were enjoying themselves completely. I was asked to say the blessing, which I did rather hesitantly because prayer seemed about the last thing that was needed at this time. There was a kind of solemnity that came over this breakfast afterward and a more reverent attitude toward the whole occasion. Even several of the waitresses came up to me and commented on the prayer and its effect. One thing they did mention was that they had never had anyone offer a prayer at any breakfast they had served at this particular club. Now you see, all that we need to do is to set the mood. ~~But we should pause at least sometime during this day to render thanks To God for what He has done for each of us.~~

We show thanks in many ways. With children we always have to remind them, "Now what do you say to Uncle Frank?" And dutifully they grumble thanks. It need not be this way between us and God. At least I hope that we do not act this way with our Creator. Sometimes when things are going too well for us we are

inclined to take too much for granted and even take credit for our accomplishments. In this respect we are like the old ~~man~~^{MAN} who took over a vacant lot, which was packed with weeds, tin cans, rubbish and everything imaginable. After months of back breaking labor he turned it into a beautiful garden. One day his pastor came by and looking over the fence he was really impressed. He remarked, "Rufus, you and the Lord have done a wonderful job here," "Yes indeed," he replied, "But you should have seen the place when the Lord was taking care of it Himself." We cannot do anything without the help of God. It is God who helps us in all things. It is God who gives us what we have and call our own. So therefore, we should be willing to give thanks to God for all His blessings to us.

Our Pilgrim fathers spent a very miserable and bleak winter, the year of 1620. Many of them died because of the bitter cold and because of the meager supplies they had. But in the year 1621 they were able to clear land, to build shelters and cabins, and to ~~plant~~^{plant} fields. In the fall they reaped a good harvest. Because of this it was decided that they set aside a day for the worship and thanksgiving to God. This they naturally called Thanksgiving. Merely a day for giving thanks. This holiday has been handed down to us from these hardy people. Are we going to use the day set aside in this year ~~1943~~ to at least show a little thanks? Or are we going to do as so many people will do, sit down to an overflowing table and eat and drink ourselves full, and never give one thought to why we celebrate this day? People should be made more aware that this is a day that may not be particularly Holy. Yet it should have a certain significance to us. It should make us aware that this is a day in which we render heartfelt thanks to our Creator for what He has done for each of us. This need not mean that we sit all day with hands folded and do nothing. We can do the things we want and we like, but we should pause to express our gratitude and our humble thanks to our God.

Through our worship and our thanks to God we begin to grow in love. We cannot worship God, and we cannot thank Him and not love Him. It is impossible to do so. How could we worship someone, and show our thanks to him and hate him? It can't be done. Yet we do not often think of our love for Him. We willingly worship Him and we willingly serve Him, yet we hesitate ^{to} show our love.

Now how do we show our love? By living as we should. We know what is right and we know what is wrong. Therefore we need to try to live as we should and this will show forth our love more than anything we can otherwise say or do. Many times we would like to tell God of our love and do not know how to go about it. We are like the homesick sailor who decided that he would spend some of his paycheck by sending his girlfriend a telegram. He chewed on the pencil for a while and finally he came up with, "I love, you, I love you, I love you, John." The clerk read it over and told him he was allowed to add a tenth word for the same price. So the sailor pondered this over for a while and then added his tenth word. It was regards. Our love for God is sometimes like this. We want to tell Him we love Him, but after this what can we add? We can only add our regards, the living of our lives. This is the proof of our love. ^{BUT} What higher motivation could we have than that of serving God by helping someone in need? ^{THIS IS LOVE.} Will we continue to sit in our warm churches as we do Thanksgiving after Thanksgiving and think of those who will go to bed hungry this Thursday as well as the other days leading up to it and those following? Will we continue to agree that something should be done about this and then go home to our snug warm homes and promptly forget it? God forbid that we do. ~~I read an interesting article~~ ^{AN ARTICLE I READ} In Christianity Today recently. ~~It~~ ^{ILLUSTRATION FROM} had to do with eating and being gluttonous. It was titled, "Tis the season to be Gluttonous." It told of our national pastime of overeating and being overweight. But what was really interesting was the little incident of a woman who was told by her doctors to lose some weight. She tried diet foods and dietetic foods, calorie counting and so on ^{CHRISTIANITY TODAY FILE} to no avail. She lacked the will power. But one day she received a pamphlet in the mail asking for money ~~for money~~ to help feed needy children. On the cover was a picture of a dark skinned boy whose scrawny chest and limbs made him look like a skeleton. She said the sight of this boy was like a spiritual shock treatment. It started her to thinking how she could take off the unneeded pounds and at the same time put on some desperately needed pounds on the body of a starving child. Use illustration here.

Now this woman made a very important discovery. That sometimes we can help ourselves by helping others. This is the secret of the Christian life, the living by giving. Someone anonymously wrote the following lines, paraphrasing the words of Christ. Illustrate with this poem.

My friends, there are still many, many people who need our love and our help. We are indeed our brothers keeper. If we refuse to help then we are not Christians, we are heathens under an assumed name. Ellen Underwood wrote a little poem I would like to share with you ~~this morning~~. I believe it states more eloquently than I how and what we need to be doing. It is entitled, "I shall not pass again this way." God grant that we may not only take these words as our theme of life, but may we truly give of ourselves, showing our love to others by our deeds and our concern and our material possessions. Amen

The bread that gives men strength I want to give;
 The water which the thirsting need to live:
 I want to lift the faint who fall each day;
 I'm sure I shall not pass again this way.

I want to give serenity for tears,
 The faith to conquer crowding doubts and fears.
 For ashes, beauty I would like to pay;
 I'm sure I shall not pass again this way.

I want to give good measure running over,
 And always help each angry heart discover
 The answer soft that turneth wrath away;
 I'm sur I shall not pass again this way.

I want to give strong hope, firm faith, and sweet,
 Warm charity to all whom I may meet;
 As God ordained I want to live each day;
 I'm sur I shall not pass again this way.